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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE Newspapers, as indicated.

RAILROADS, ROADS INCREASED AND IMPROVED

NOVI SAD TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS PROGRESS -- Rad, No 303, 21 Dec 49

The following projects are being built in Novi Sad: housing for workers, the headquarters of the General Administration of the Great Danube-Tisa-Danube Canal, a large port, a radio station, four bridges over the Danube, a water system, a new passenger railroad station, and a freight railroad station at the Alovasko Cemetery.

Freight traffic will not go through the city. The international tracks will go by the mouth of the Danube-Tisa-Danube Canal, cross the bridge over the Danube, and proceed to the Srem and to Belgrade. Building the railroad bridge near Novi Sad, will establish a direct connection with Zagreb. The international highway will skirt the city and it will divide into two sections beyond the bridge near Kamenica. One section will lead to Belgrade on the old road, the other will merge with the Belgrade-Zagreb Highway.

In addition to the present "passenger-railroad bridge" and the former railroad bridge, which has been rebuilt, Novi Sad will get two more bridges, one railroad and one road bridge. The former railroad bridge will serve exclusively for automobile traffic and will connect the construction, administration, and cultural centers of Novi Sad with the industrial center by means of the broadened tunnel underneath the Petrovaradin fortress. Novi Sad will be completely free from interurban traffic, since all interurban road connections will skirt it.

Ship traffic will be increased with the building of several kilometers of dock and the digging of the Great Danube Tisa Danube Canal, at the mouth of which there will be a cargo port for ships of the largest tonnage.

Air traffic will increase also. In addition to several airports for sport planes, the plan for Novi Sad provides for the construction of a large civil airport which will connect Novi Sad with other Yugoslav cities and with foreign cities.

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RAILROADS EXPAND -- Zeljeznicar, No 6, 15 Dec 49

Since the war the No 1 Railroad Enterprise has finished the following railroad connections: Brcko-Banovici, Samac Sarajevo, Niksic Titograd, Kakanj-Podlugovi Breza, and Gorusa-Visoko. It also has completed the connecting track in Gorusa, the track to the separator in Breza, the industrial track in the Zenica Ironworks, and the work on the Prenj tunnel between Sarajevo and Ploce.

Projects not stipulated by the Five Year Plan included work on the Lasva-Busovaca and Breza Vares lines. In addition, the enterprise laid tracks on new lines, and enlarged the system on the Samac Sarajevo line. Significant work also done on the Catica tunnel. The greatest handicap was the labor shortage.

FREIGHT UNLOADING IN BELGRADE UNSATISFACTORY -- Borba, No 295, 13 Dec 49

Belgrade receives up to 900 freight cars of various goods daily. Of these, 200 to 300 cars are not unloaded immediately and clog the Belgrade railroad stations. The chief reason for the inefficient unloading is the manpower shortage. There are only 500 men unloading cars. The help furnished by the People's Front and labor unions is not well organized. There are insufficient trucks to haul the goods. If trucks are available, they are not used immediately because the railroad stations are poorly organized.

There are times when 1,500 freight cars are waiting in front of Belgrade railroad stations, because their tracks are clogged with cars.

STANDARD-GAUGE RR UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Slovenski Porocevalec, No 298, 22 Dec 49

A 28 kilometer standard gauge railroad from the Bor mine to the Nis-Zajecar-Prahovo main line is under construction. It will merge with the main line at Vrazognac north of Zajecar. The present connection between the Bor mine and the Zajecar Cuprija narrow gauge railroad is overburdened and inadequate. The new standard gauge railroad will run further north and will be shorter than the present narrow-gauge railroad. Several projects will have to be built along the new line, including three tunnels totaling 674 meters, and a fairly large bridge.

RR LINE TO BE ELECTRIFIED -- Slovenski Porocevalec, No 294, 17 Dec 49

The Five-Year Plan stipulates the electrification of 300 kilometers of railroad track in mountainous regions, where the use of electric power would be cheaper than coal. At present, plans are being drawn up to electrify the Postojna-Ljubljana and the Rijeka Srpske Moravice lines. It has been decided that the Sarajevo-Ploce line, the construction which has already begun, will be electrified.

FACTORY DELIVERS FREIGHT CARS -- Slovenski Porocevalec, No 281, 2 Dec 49

The freight-car factory in Rankovicevo, Serbia, has delivered the first series of 20-ton freight cars to the railroads. On their first trip, the cars will bring ore concentrate from Trepca, which is 1,000 kilometers from Rankovicevo.

225-METER TUNNEL DUG -- Borba, No 286, 3 Dec 49

On 29 November 1949, a 225-meter tunnel was dug through Banovec in Nova Gorica, Slovenia. The new tunnel will connect Nova Gorica with its southern suburbs and the Kras Mountains.

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